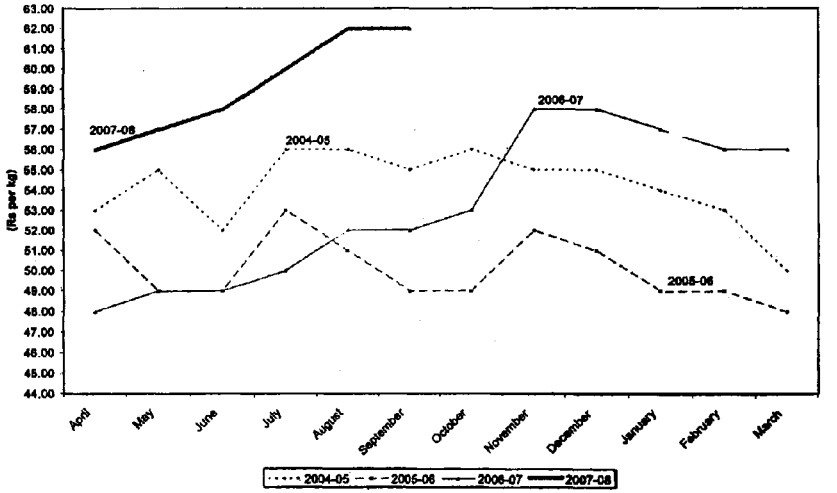
Month-end retail prices of mustard oil at Delhi from 2004-05 to 2007-08



Ban on procurement of wheat by private agencies

2664. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to private parties not to procure wheat from markets in Punjab;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the farmers will not get better prices for their produce due to such a ban; and

(d) if so, how Government plan to compensate the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Supply of poor quality foodgrains

2665. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in Uttar Pradesh and in the Capital city share or ration are being denied to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya the poorest of poor card holders;

(b) whether Government are also aware that whatever foodgrains are being supplied is of poor qualities; and.

(c) if so, what is preventing Government to take up the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per reports received from the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, BPL and Antyodaya cardholders are being supplied ration commodities regularly and no such cardholder is being denied share of the ration commodities. The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi have informed that the foodgrains being supplied to BPL and AAY ration card holders are of satisfactory quality.

Whenever complaints about poor quality of foodgrains are received, required action is taken by the State Governments.

(c) However, the following steps have been taken to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains to the State Governments for distribution under TPDS:

(i) Adequate opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/UT Administrations to inspect the stocks prior lifting from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns.

(ii) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments/UT Administrations that an officer not below the rank of Inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.

(iii) The samples of foodgrains are to be jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the FCI from the stocks for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for the benefit of consumers.

(v) The officers of the State Governments and the Ministry pay surprise checks to the, Fair Price Shops to oversee the quality of foodgrains being distributed through Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Support to closed sugar mills in MP

†2666. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills in the country lying closed due to financial crisis, loss or other reasons, State-wise;

(b) the number of employees becoming unemployed due to closure of sugar mills in the Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether Government are formulating any scheme to re-start these closed sugar mills or to give any allowance or financial support to unemployed persons; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.